

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable consideration of the subject application.


Claims 1-30 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 10, 17, and 25 being independent. Pursuant to a telephonic restriction and election of species requirement, Applicants have elected, with traverse, to prosecute claims 1-9 in this application. Accordingly, claims 10-30 are withdrawn.

By this amendment, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, and 17-24 have been amended to improve their form. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the application, as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Michael J. Didas
Registration No. 55,112

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

MJD/eyw

DC_MAIN 205886v1